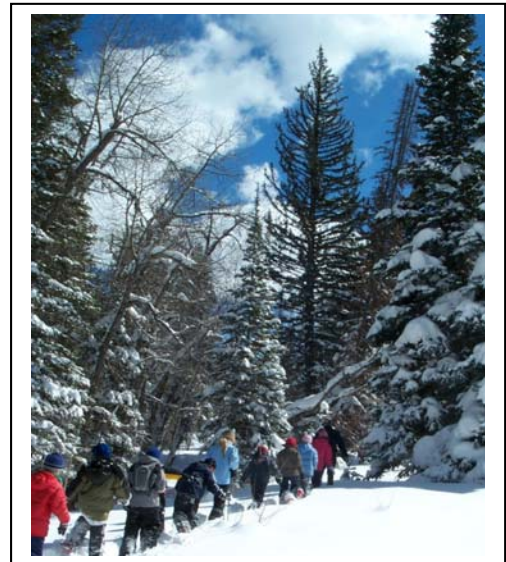


**Education Programs on the Salt Lake Ranger District
Teach Youth and Adults About Their
National Forest and Watershed**



Each winter, about 2,000 children trek through the snow in Big Cottonwood Canyon on free guided snowshoe tours where they learn wildlife tracking, winter animal adaptations, public lands, and how the snow they are standing on supplies drinking water to their homes. The nonprofit Cottonwood Canyons Foundation (CCF) organizes the snowshoe program, trains volunteers, and provides funding that enables youth from the Salt Lake City metropolitan area to experience their National Forest through a field-based program based on the 4th grade science curriculum. Program partner REI provides snowshoes and has supported the program by providing funding for bus transportation. Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities staff participates as guides to teach youth about the protected culinary watershed.



In addition to the school snowshoe program, the Cottonwood Canyons Foundation offers autumn school field trip programs at Silver Lake Visitor Center where students learn about wetland ecology and watershed. The public can also participate in free education programs including snowshoe tours, wildflower walks, night hikes, and wetland tours. CCF volunteers also offer education programs to skiers and snowboarders visiting Brighton, Solitude, Alta, and Snowbird Ski Areas. In addition to education programs, CCF implements stewardship programs including trail maintenance and invasive weed treatments. There are many opportunities to volunteer for education or stewardship programs through CCF. Individuals or groups who would like to participate in an education program or volunteer may contact the Public Lands Information Center at 801-466-6411 or see <http://www.cottonwoodcanyons.org/>

